

British Empire in America

I. Isles & Islanders of the Western Seas

By Algernon E. Aspinall, C.M.G.

Author of "The British West Indies" & Secretary, West India Committee

Here are described the countries and peoples of the many islands in the Western Atlantic, which with British Guiana and British Honduras compose so important a part of the British Empire in America. The self-governing Dominions of Canada and Newfoundland (with Labrador) are separately described under their own headings

THE British West Indies form links in the great chain of islands which stretches in a curve from off the coast of Florida to the north-east littoral of South America. They comprise eight separate colonies—namely, the Bahamas; Barbados; Jamaica, with Turks and Caicos Islands and the Cayman Islands; Trinidad, and Tobago; Grenada, St. Vincent, and St. Lucia—united for certain purposes under a single governor as the Windward Islands; and the Leeward Islands, which include five Presidencies—namely, Antigua with Barbuda and Redonda, St. Kitts, Nevis and Anguilla, Montserrat, Dominica, and the Virgin Islands.

British Guiana, one of the three Guianas on the north-east corner of the South American continent, and British Honduras, on the east coast of Central America, are frequently regarded as integral parts of the British West Indies, owing to the many interests which they have in common with the islands.

The West Indian islands, with few exceptions—notably Barbados, the Bahamas, and the Cayman Islands,

which are of coral formation—are very mountainous. Geologists assert that they are the summits of a submerged range of mighty mountains which in remote ages must have formed some kind of a connecting link between North and South America.

Fossilised remains of animals which still exist in South America have been found in Georgia and Carolina, and the tribal habits of the Indians in Guiana closely resemble those of the North American Indians. Moreover, bones of the megatherium, a prehistoric beast which could never have subsisted within the confined limits of a small island, have been discovered in Guadeloupe.

It is suggested that when the West Indian islands were an isthmus, the present Isthmus of Panama was a group of small islands, of which one at least—now represented by the American suburb on



A PLEASING CONTRAST
Her cotton gown laundered to the
whiteness of snow deepens the glossy
blackness of the Jamaican negress

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Ancon Hill overlooking Panama City—was of volcanic origin. The subsidence which brought the West Indian islands into being is believed to have been gradual, the first result being the formation of an immense island occupying the site of Cuba, Jamaica, Haiti, and Porto Rico, now known as the Greater Antilles, and the neighbouring seas. This, it is claimed, is proved by the distribution of the flora and fauna; there exist, for example, in each of those islands, and nowhere else, certain birds known in Jamaica as green todies.

Most of the islands have central ranges of lofty mountains running generally north and south, and buttressed by spurs which slope down to the coast, forming valleys of exquisite

beauty and great fertility. These mountains bear ample evidence of their origin in the form of old lava streams and extinct craters, while examples of volcanic activity are furnished by the Soufrière in St. Vincent, a volcano which burst into violent eruption in 1902, after having been quiescent for nearly a century, and the Boiling Lake of Dominica, the water in which is periodically swallowed up and regurgitated by means of some subterranean agency. St. Lucia also has a Soufrière, resembling the Solfatara near Naples, whilst two conical mountains in the neighbourhood, known as the Pitons, or sugar loaves, are clearly the spines of extinct volcanoes. The mountains are densely clothed with tall forest trees and dense tropical foliage



KALEIDOSCOPIC LIFE IN TRAFALGAR SQUARE, BRIDGETOWN

Variegated animation runs riot in the pretty capital of Barbados. Negroes, clad in white and multi-coloured cottons and with gaudily turbaned heads throng the streets already gay with sunblinds and venetian jalousies. Bridgetown has good shops, pleasure grounds and beaches, and, in Trafalgar Square, the first monument erected in memory of Nelson



AVENUE OF ROYAL PALMS AT BRIDGETOWN, CAPITAL OF BARBADOS

Barbados is an island in the Windward group of the British West Indies. So dense is the population of this 166 square miles of the British Empire set down in the Caribbean Sea that it is hard to tell where one town ends and another begins. On account of its delightful climate, this beautiful little island has long been known as a health resort



SHOULDERING THE FAMILY BURDEN IN BRITISH GUIANA

Macusi mothers carry their babies in front of them in a sling fastened over the right shoulder. Burdens connected with their work in the fields they bear on their backs, suspended by a broad band over the head. All the manual labour is done by these patient creatures

to their summits. The Bahamas and Barbados owe their existence mainly to the prolific coral insect. Consequently, in marked contrast to their volcanic neighbours, they are comparatively flat, though the north-east part of Barbados, appropriately called the Scotland district, is hilly. This island has depended to a great extent on successive eruptions of the Soufrière in St. Vincent for its soil, which in many parts of the island does not exceed two or three feet in depth. As recently as 1902, the ashes and scorïæ from that volcano, carried by an upper current of air for a distance of nearly one hundred miles, fell upon Barbados, covering the island to a depth of several inches. The first recorded fall

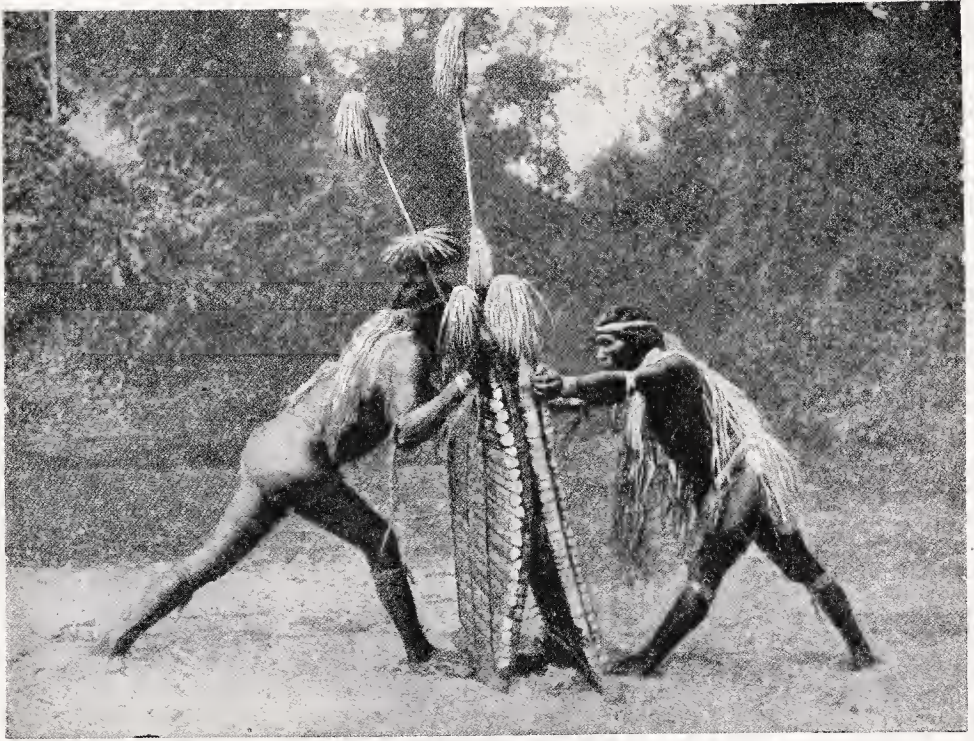
of ash in this manner occurred in May, 1812. It caused the greatest consternation, and was still talked of as the fall of "May Dust" when the phenomenon was repeated in 1902.

The West Indian islands, with the exception of those just mentioned, which derive their water supply from the rainfall and underground sources, and of Antigua, which suffers from droughts of great severity, are well watered. It is, however, only Jamaica that has rivers which are navigable for any distance from their mouths. Many of the West Indian water-courses are "dry" and actually waterless until a fall of rain occurs in the hills, when in an incredibly short space of time they



MACUSI HOUSEWIFE BUSY IN HER LIGHT AND AIRY HOME

Native architects in British Guiana pay as little attention to privacy as to sanitation and hygiene. Walls amount to nothing more than lattice-work of widest mesh and windows are superfluous. All the housewife asks for is a sufficiency of utensils of wood or gourds, baskets which she plaits herself, and a heavy wooden mortar in which, with a pole for pestle, she can pound fruit and grain.



WARRAW INDIAN BUCKS PLAYING THEIR SHIELD GAME

The Warraws are a numerically small tribe settled near the mouth of the Barima river in the north of British Guiana. They keep apart from the white population and from the negroes of the woods, descendants of slaves who escaped from the plantations and took to wild life in the forests of the interior



TAKING THE COUNT: DEFEATED, BUT NOT DISGRACED

A favourite amusement of the Warraw Indians is the shield game. Planting their plumed and stoutly woven war shields face to face upright on the ground two warriors take firm stand behind them and strive to push each other down. The first and last stages of the contest are shown on this page



THE BRONZE ARCHER: A WAPISIANA HUNTER SHOOTING FISH

All the rivers, streams, and trenches of British Guiana abound with fish, crabs, and shrimps, which are consumed in large quantities by the indigenous peoples. The tribesmen, who scorn manual labour and do practically nothing but hunt and fish, are astonishingly expert with bow and arrow, using them even for shooting fish.

become raging torrents carrying all before them. In many islands the rivers are broken on their way to the sea by waterfalls, which add greatly to the charm of the scenery, such as Roaring River and Llandovery in Jamaica, and the famous Blue Basin and Maracas Falls in Trinidad.

The physical features of British Guiana and British Honduras differ in many respects from those of the islands. The Magnificent Province, as our only colony in South America is sometimes

called—though it has yet to justify the name—comprises a coastal belt below the level of the sea, which is kept out by an elaborate system of dams and sluices contrived by the old Dutch engineers, dense bush, vast rolling savannahs, or grassy plains, and immense forests that yield many valuable woods, including the famous “greenheart,” which is used in docks and harbours all over the world because of its power of resisting the teredo worm. Beyond, on the boundaries of Brazil, are mighty

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mountains, the highest being Mount Roraima, which rises to 8,740 feet in the Paharaima range.

The colony has four great rivers, the Demerara, Essequibo, and the Berbice, which give their names to the principal countries, and the Courantyne, dividing British from Dutch Guiana. The Essequibo, which drains more than half the total area of the colony, is 600 miles long, and has an estuary 14 miles wide. The Demerara and Berbice are navigable for 80 and 88 miles respectively from their mouths, but otherwise most of the rivers are broken above the tideway by rapids, cataracts, and waterfalls which impede

navigation and necessitate haulage of boats through the bush. The most notable waterfall is the Kaieteur, on the Potaro River, which plunges over a table-land into a deep valley, a sheer drop of 740 feet; the total height of the fall (822 feet) is five times that of Niagara.

Only the coast line and the banks of the rivers for a distance of 10 miles from their mouths can be properly described as inhabited, the remainder of the country being given up to the aboriginal "Indians" and the comparatively few people engaged in such forest undertakings as wood-cutting and the collection of balata, a gutta-percha-like substance used for insulation purposes, and



ON GUARD AT THE GATE OF KINGSTON BARRACKS, JAMAICA

Men of the West India Regiment make a brave show in their parade uniform of gold-embroidered scarlet vest over a snowy shirt, baggy blue trousers, white gaiters, and gold-tasseled white turban. From their barracks, situated at an altitude of nearly four thousand feet, more than a hundred miles of Jamaica's coast-line can be surveyed

Photo, Publishers' Photo Service



SMILING NEGRESS ON HER SUNNY WAY TO MARKET

Small holdings are numerous in Jamaica, and the negro peasants drive a thriving trade in English vegetables raised on the hills and in native fruits which grow in great variety and profusion all over the island. On market days the many bridle paths are thronged with peasants carrying great baskets of fruit on their heads and leading pannier-laden donkeys

Photo, Publishers' Photo Service

in belting, etc., and mineral industries, which include the finding of gold, diamonds, and bauxite, one of the ores of aluminium.

British Honduras, like British Guiana, suffers from a lack of population. Only a very small portion of the country has as yet been developed. The coast line of the colony, which is fringed by numerous islets or cays—the most notable of which is that of St. George's—extends for 180 miles from Yucatan, at the north, to the Bay of Honduras.

The rivers include the Rio Honda, which forms the boundary between the colony and Mexico, the New River, the Belize, at the mouth of which the capital stands, the Sibun, the North and South Stann Creek, the Mullins, the Rio Grande, and lastly the Sarstoon, which separates British Honduras from Guatemala at the south. The coast lands are swampy. The lower tracts of the rivers are known as cohune ridges, from the prevalence of the graceful cohune palm (*Attalea Cohune*), beyond



HOURS OF EASE IN AN INDOLENT, GENEROUS CLIME

Housing conditions for the natives are generally poor in the West Indies. The negro peasant has probably squatted on land that caught his fancy, regardless of its lawful ownership, and there built a one-roomed thatched tenement. He works in the fields for hire a few days a week and on the others tills his own plot or not, according to his mood.

Photo, A. Leader

which are pine ridges, so called from the *Pinus Cubensis*, and broken ridges, often covered with dense jungle.

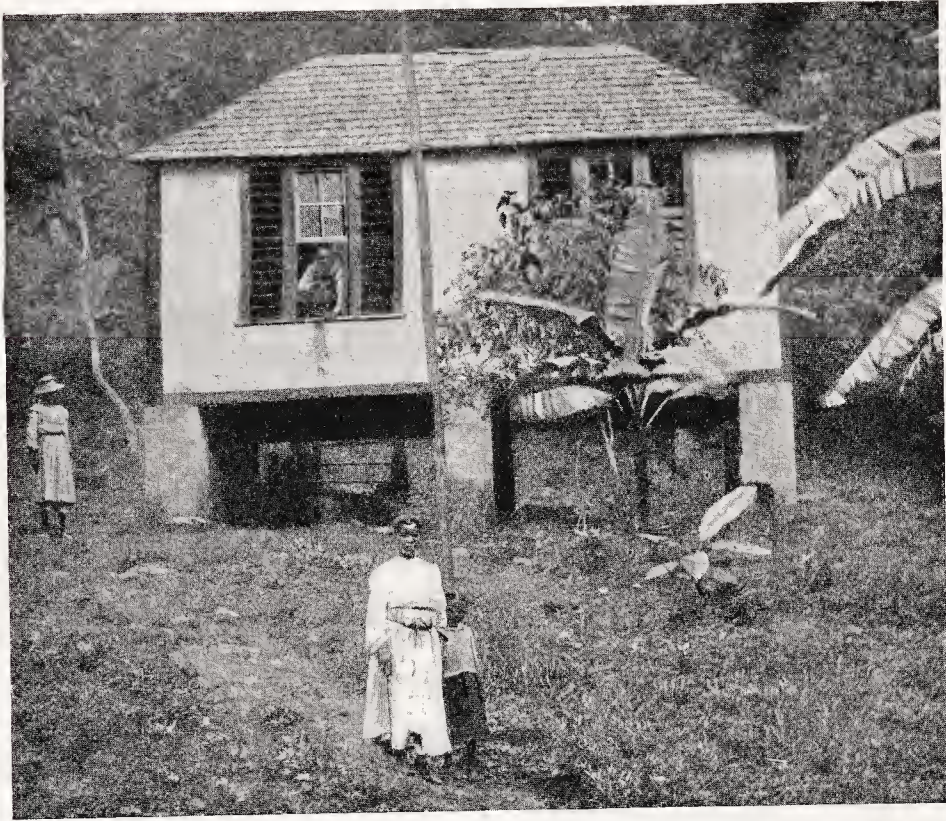
The climate of the British West Indies is equable and healthy for Europeans. New-comers are apt to find the summer months, which are known as the rainy season, somewhat oppressive, owing to the humidity of the atmosphere; but in the winter the heat of the sun is tempered by the refreshing North-East trade wind which blows without ceasing from November or December until the end of March. The shade temperature at the sea level varies from about 75° to 85° Fahr., while in the hills it may fall as low as 45° Fahr. An average temperature of about 80° Fahr. may seem high, but it must be remembered that the conditions of living in the tropics are appropriate to the climate. The houses

are built in such a way as to permit of a free current of air passing through them, light venetian jalousies taking the place of glass windows, and as the very lightest clothing is worn the West Indian resident never feels the heat so much as he does during a heat-wave in England or in New York.

Being in the hurricane zone, the islands from Barbados to the Bahamas are liable to be struck by hurricanes in the months from July to the end of October. An old negro adage runs:

June, too soon,
July, stand by!
August, come it must!
September, remember!
October, all over.

The appearance of an island after it has been swept by a hurricane is deplorable—trees being stripped of their branches, crops laid flat, and the ramshackle huts



PROPER PRIDE INSTALLED IN A PUKKA BUNGALOW

Better-class houses in the West Indies take the form of pleasant and convenient bungalows raised on piles of brick or stone as protection from various insect pests and reached by wooden steps. Light and ventilation are afforded by sash windows and louver-boards. These homesteads are very picturesque amid the luxuriant tropical vegetation which provides each with a garden ready-made

Photo, A. Leader

of the negroes wrecked. Thanks, however, to the remarkable recuperative powers of tropical islands, the country soon resumes its mantle of green, and within a very few months the storm is forgotten and business is again in full swing. The death-roll resulting from hurricanes is comparatively small, since, thanks to the vigilance of the United States weather bureau, which has many stations in the islands, warning of their probable approach is given, and the inhabitants are able to seek shelter before the storm breaks.

The British West Indies are mainly dependent upon agriculture for their prosperity, though petroleum and asphalt are exported from Trinidad; gold, diamonds, timber, balata, and bauxite from British Guiana; and mahogany and other timbers, and also chicle—a substance bled from the

sapodilla tree and used in the manufacture of chewing-gum—from British Honduras.

The principal agricultural staples are cane-sugar and its by-products, rum, molasses, and molascuit—a cattle food made of the digestible fibre of the sugar-cane and molasses—cacao, and sea island cotton. Before the war, Jamaica shipped 16,000,000 bunches of bananas annually, but hurricanes in 1915, 1916, and 1917, which played havoc with the plantations, and the superior attractions of sugar have led to a reduction in the area under fruit cultivation, with the result that the annual exports have fallen to from 7,000,000 to 10,000,000 bunches, shipped mainly to the United States. Owing to the prohibitive tariff in that country, and to the absence of facilities for shipping the fruit to the United

Kingdom, the orange industry has languished. Dominica ships fresh limes to America, and the cultivation of the lime tree and the preparation of lime-juice, concentrated lime-juice, lime oil, citric acid, and citrate of lime from its fruit, forms the staple industry of the island. Lime products also contribute to the exports of Montserrat and St. Lucia to an appreciable extent.

West Indian Gold, Gums, and Spices

Other West Indian agricultural industries are the production and export of arrowroot for which St. Vincent is famous; coconuts from the islands generally and especially Trinidad and Jamaica; coffee, essential oils, and spices, such as ginger and pimento, which are shipped by Jamaica; and nutmegs and mace, the production of which forms the staple industry of Grenada, sometimes called "The Spice Island of the West." British Guiana produces about 26,000 oz. of gold and 13,000 carats of diamonds every year. The output of petroleum from the local wells in Trinidad has already reached 73,000,000 gallons in a single year, and the exports of asphalt from the world-famous Pitch Lake in the same island average 115,000 tons annually.

Survivals of Spain's Heavy Hand

The population of the British West Indies is cosmopolitan. The Arawaks, a mild and peaceful people who inhabited Jamaica at the time of its first discovery, were speedily exterminated by the Spaniards, who compelled them to work in the mines of Hispaniola. The Caribs, on the other hand, who occupied the islands of the Lesser Antilles lying to windward of the Caribbean Sea and were characterised by their warlike propensities, were not so easily subdued. For many years they remained in the undisputed possession of Dominica, St. Vincent, St. Lucia, and Tobago, and it was not until 1796 that they were finally defeated in St. Vincent by Sir Ralph Abercromby. A few Carib families still reside in Dominica, where they are settled in a district on the windward coast under their own king, who

holds nominal sway over his people. The Caribs have long since lost their taste for fighting and now eke out a modest livelihood by selling baskets, in the manufacture of which they are adepts, and by fishing. In British Guiana, representatives of the Arawak and Carib races still maintain their separate identity among other tribes of so-called Indians, which include the Macusis, the Arecuna, the Warraws, the Wapisianas, and the Ackawois. The total number of these aborigines surviving is estimated at about 6,500 only. They follow the primitive life of their ancestors and show no taste for civilized employment. They rarely inter-marry with the blacks. The Bovianders—a cross between the "bucks" (as the aboriginal Indians are called) and the negroes—are expert watermen.

Children of the Old Days of Slavery

The present population of the West Indies is almost entirely of immigrant origin. Descendants of the slaves from Africa, imported from the days of Hawkins and Drake in the sixteenth century until the abolition of the slave trade in 1807, predominate. East Indians, introduced from 1845 onwards until 1916, mainly from Calcutta, also form an important element in the population. Indeed, in British Guiana nearly one-half and in Trinidad fully one-third of the population is of Indian descent.

The Indians have brought with them to those colonies the customs of the East. They have their mosques and temples, and celebrate such festivals as the Moharram with all the fervour of their countrymen in India. For many years the Indians were introduced into the West Indies under a system of indenture devised for the protection of the immigrants themselves, but this was terminated in 1916, and proposals are under consideration for the substitution for it of free colonisation.

In the West Indies, Indian immigrants enjoy equality of opportunity in the fullest sense with other races. They are represented in the legislature and many among them have risen to positions of



AT THE WELL WHERE THE WATER-LILIES GROW

Negro life is easy in Jamaica, where rent is a negligible quantity, fuel is needed only for cooking and can be had for the gathering, and where four days' work a week will keep a family in comfort. The island is particularly rich in flowering plants. Colour, in flower and fruit, surrounds this cheery girl, and she shows her love for colour in her printed cotton frock and gaudy turban



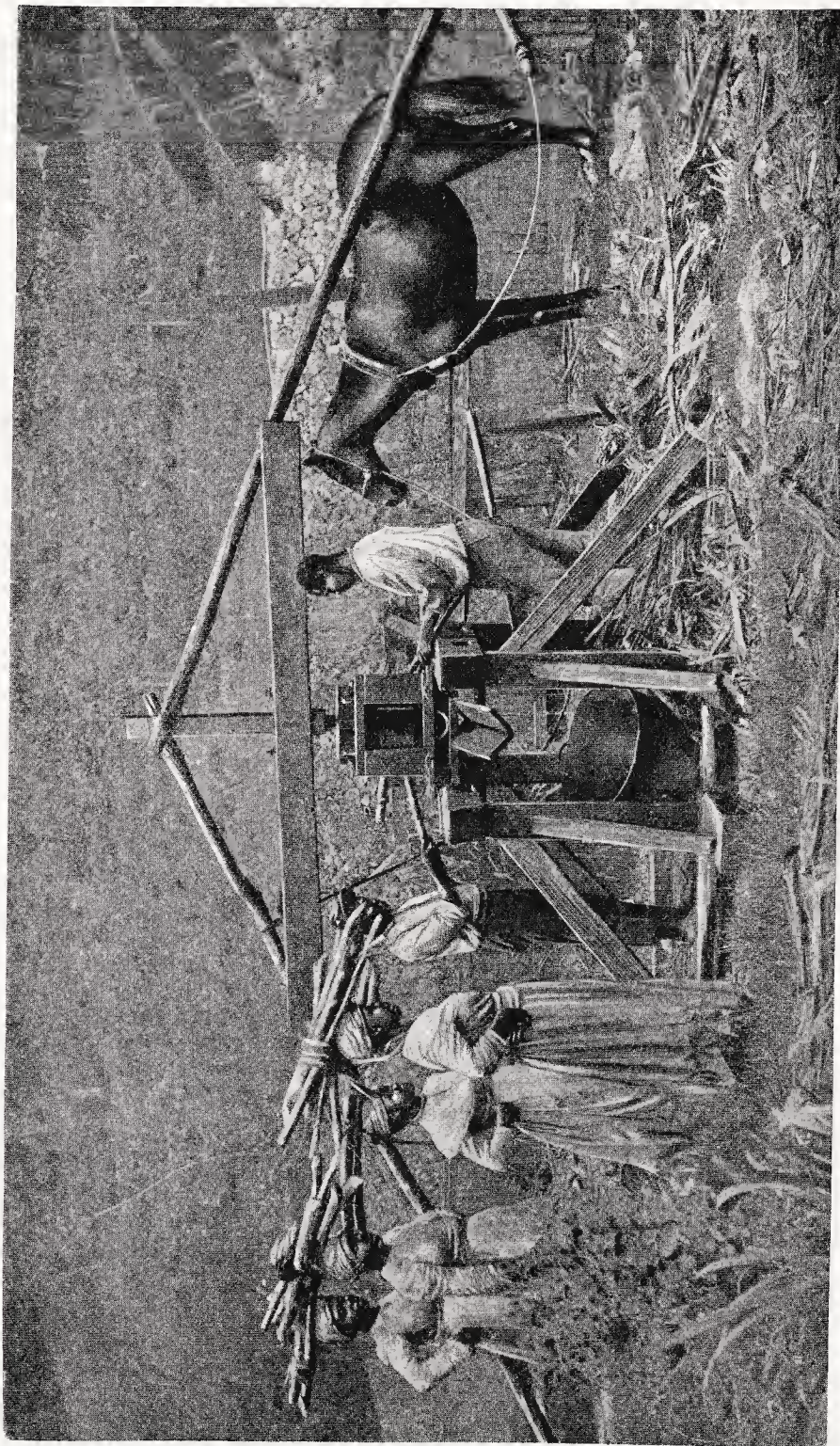
NEGRO WOMEN TENDING YOUNG SUGAR-CANES IN THE HEAT OF JAMAICA'S TROPICAL SUN

Jamaica, discovered by Columbus in 1494, was taken over by Spain in 1509, and conquered by the English in 1655. For many years Jamaica was one of the world's greatest slave marts; the emancipation of the slaves took place in 1834. The negro peasant population is chiefly employed on the sugar plantations, and here we have a typical group of women busily working among the young canes, the Blue Mountains forming a beautiful background to this pleasant rural scene.



CUTTERS OF THE SUCCULENT CANES AT WORK ON A SUGAR PLANTATION IN JAMAICA

The sugar industry was introduced into Jamaica about 1672, and sugar is now one of the principal exports of the island. The sugarcane is a perennial and belongs to the same botanical order as wheat, oats, corn, and maize, but attains a height of fifteen to twenty feet. After the ripe canes are cut and sent to the factory, the buried rootstock lives and produces new crops, called ratoons, for several successive years.



SIMPLE WOODEN HORSE-MILL EMPLOYED IN THE WEST INDIES FOR CRUSHING THE SUGAR-CANES

Juice is extracted from the sugar-cane by crushing the stems in a series of mills. The canes are usually first broken into short pieces and then inserted into the mill, the cylindrical rollers of which reduce the stalks to a shredded fibre, the raw juice dropping meanwhile into a receptacle placed under the mill. On pages 132 and 133 of this book, illustrations are given of equally simple methods of manufacturing sugar in Annam.



TURNING THE BREEZES TO USE IN A BARBADOS PLANTATION

Hand-mills, horse-mills, wind-mills, all assist the West Indian planter in the manufacture of sugar, but on the sugar plantations of Barbados the wind-mill predominates. The cultivation of sugar-cane was introduced on the island in the seventeenth century, and, owing to cheapness of labour and fertility of soil, proved highly profitable from the beginning. Barbados has well earned the sobriquet of "Little England" by its loyalty and its adherence to the traditions of the Mother Country

Photo, Publishers' Photo Service

importance in the colonies of their choice, have amassed wealth, and are themselves employers of labour. Between 1853 and 1867, Chinese immigrants were imported into British Guiana, Trinidad, and Jamaica, but the experiment did not prove a success, owing to difficulties which arose with the Government of China in respect of repatriation.

The white population comprises representatives of almost every European nationality. The descendants of the white servants with whom every slave-owner was compelled to leaven his holding of blacks, and of the Irish prisoners whom Cromwell sent out to the West Indies, are now few and far between, though they have maintained

their separate identity in Barbados, where they exist in a state of abject poverty and are known as "poor," or "mean whites," and "red legs." It may be noted that in Montserrat—which was particularly favoured by Cromwell for the internment of political prisoners—many of the blacks are called by Irish names, while some to this day speak with a distinct Irish brogue.

Though the residents in the smaller islands are mainly blacks, there are, in the larger colonies, representatives of almost every European nationality, including British, Spanish, French, Dutch, and Danish colonists, and their descendants, Americans, Portuguese from Madeira—who largely control the retail spirit trade in several islands—



DISMANTLING THE COCOA TREE OF THE FOOD FIT FOR THE GODS

Cocoa plantations were first cultivated in Trinidad towards the end of the eighteenth century. The flowers grow among the main branches or direct from the trunk, giving the fruit the appearance of having been artificially attached to the tree. Cocoa pods are harvested twice yearly. Linnaeus, the famous Swedish botanist and naturalist, gave the Greek name "Theobroma" (god-food) to cocoa, to indicate his high appreciation of the beverage

Photo, Publishers' Photo Service

Syrians, who carry on a profitable business as hucksters, and Corsicans.

After the American Revolution, many loyalist families migrated to the West Indies—notably the Bahamas—but the great bulk of the white population of those colonies to-day consists of the British Civil Servants, and of those British subjects who have gone out to

the West Indies to make their fortunes from agriculture, or in some professional capacity. Unlike French colonists, who make Martinique and Guadeloupe their permanent home, it is to be feared that the aim of most of the British colonists is to amass a fortune and to return to Europe to spend it, rather than to remain in the colonies, and it is



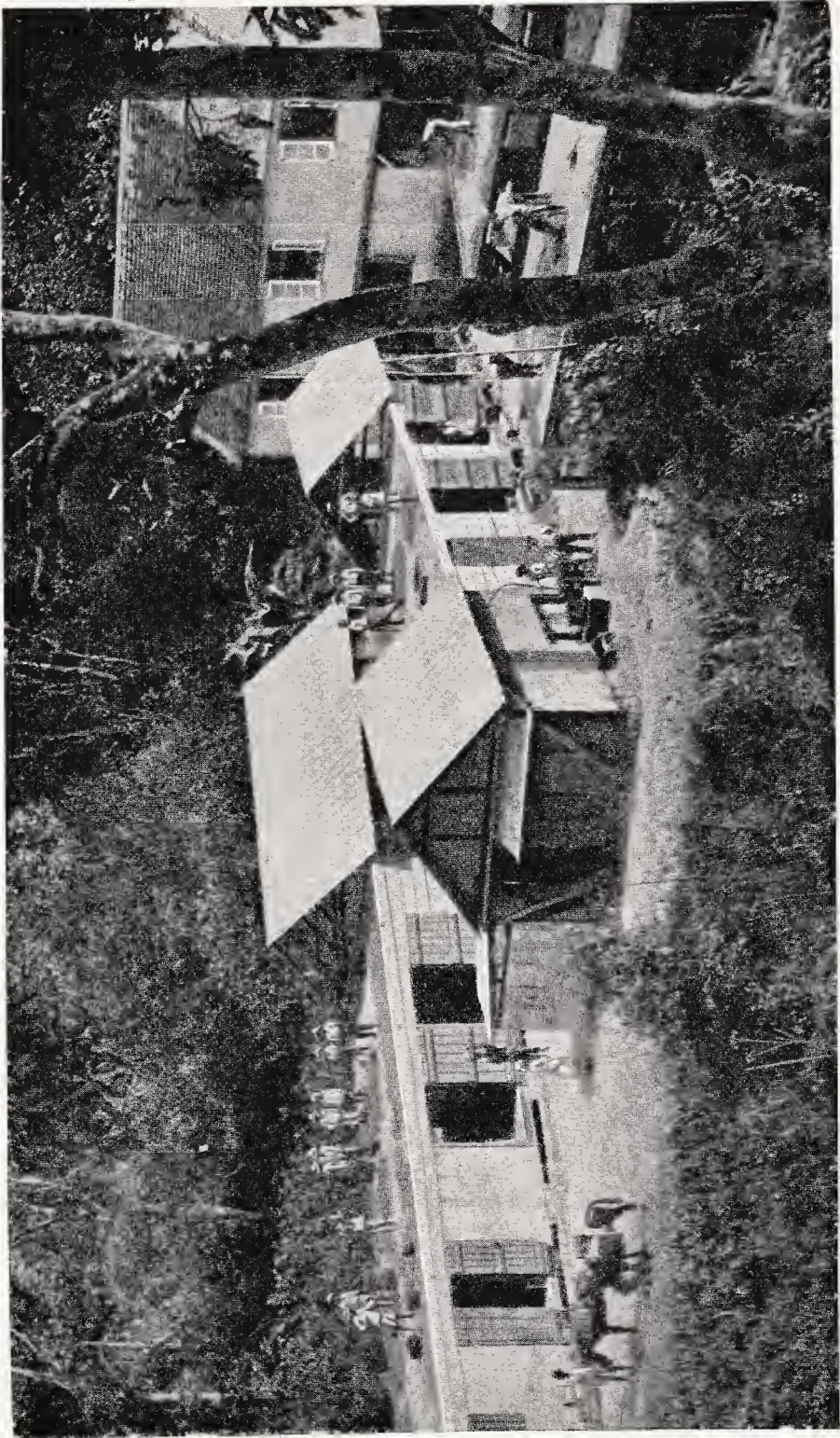
EXTRACTING THE SEEDS FROM THE MATURED FRUIT OF THE COCOA TREE
 The ripe ribbed fruit having been heaped together, the men slash the pods open with large knives and scoop out the contents—sticky white pulp, containing about forty beans, arranged in rows—and the women and boys break the beans away from the pulp with their hands

Photo, Publishers' Photo Service



"COCOA DANCE" ON THE ROOF OF DRYING-HOUSE, TRINIDAD

When the drying process is completed, the "Cocoa Dance" begins. The workers literally dance on the heaps of beans, crushing them energetically with their bare feet. This last phase is considered one of the most important in the preparation of the beans; its object being to detach them from the débris of pulp, to round them, polish them, in a word to give them a more marketable appearance



EAST INDIANS EMPLOYED ON THE DRYING HOUSES OF WEST INDIAN COCOA PLANTATIONS

With the large number of oil companies operating in the island, the Trinidad negro has gradually drifted away from the sugar and cocoa estates, where the work is now generally performed by East Indians. After being separated from the pulp, the cocoa seeds are fermented, during which process they lose a bitter principle and acquire their characteristic flavour. The beans are then dried by exposure to the sun on stone drying-floors or on especially constructed sliding roofs

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noteworthy that the people of the West Indies, whether they have visited it or not, always refer to the Mother Country as "home." In Barbados, on the other hand, and to a lesser extent in Jamaica and some of the Leeward and Windward Islands, estates have passed from father to son for generations, though even in those colonies many of such proprietors are non-resident.

The present West Indians are the descendants of the African immigrants and of the offspring of mixed marriages and unions, who pass under the generic name of "coloured people." Sometimes the latter are spoken of outside the West Indies as creoles, but the word does not necessarily denote colour. It simply means any human being, or any animal, born in the West Indies. Thus a child born of pure white parents in Barbados would be a creole, and similarly a cow, born in the island, would be spoken of as a creole cow.

A Happy and Care-Free People

West Indians are a happy and care-free folk. It has been said that they are disinclined to undertake any arduous work, probably owing to the fact that they have few ambitions beyond earning enough money on which to sustain themselves and their families. Housing arrangements are, as a rule, very bad—entire families frequently residing in a single one or two roomed hut. In connexion with their capacity for work it must be remembered that it was the British West Indian negro who provided the manual labour in the construction of the Panama Canal.

The rate of illegitimacy is high; so, too, is the death rate of infants, which, in some islands, exceeds 400 per thousand. This state of affairs is attributable to ignorance and neglect on the part of the mothers, who frequently feed their newly-born children on bananas and meat, which the digestive economy of the infants is quite unable to assimilate. In several centres, Infant Welfare Societies have been successfully established, and are doing good work.

When kept aloof from political influences and outside agitators, and

when treated firmly but with kindness, West Indians are as well behaved as the residents in other parts of the world, and nowhere is their intense loyalty to the Throne exceeded. This was exemplified by the enthusiasm with which they welcomed the Prince of Wales on his West Indian tour in 1920.

Three Hundred Islands of the Bermudas

The British colony of the Bermudas, better known as Bermuda, comprises a group of about three hundred small islands and cays clustered together in the shape of a sickle in the Western Atlantic, about 580 miles from Cape Hatteras, on the American coast, and 667 miles from New York. They are all of coral formation, and were described in the report of the expedition on board H.M.S. Challenger, which visited them during her memorable voyage of discovery between the years 1872 and 1876, as a "coral atoll," situated on the summit of a large cone with a wide base rising from the submerged plateau of the Atlantic.

The principal island of the group, near the centre of which Hamilton, the capital, is situated, is known as Main Island. Next in importance is St. George's Island at the extreme north-east, on the shores of which and at the head of a spacious harbour stands the former capital of the same name. Other islands of importance are Ireland Island, entirely given up to the naval dockyard; Boaz and Watford, devoted to the military depots and garrison; Somerset, Smith's, St. David's, Cooper, Nonsuch, Long Bird, Paget, and Godet.

Where Motor-Cars are Not Allowed

The entire chain is linked up by bridges and causeways, so that one can drive from one end of the colony to the other—though not by motor-car, the use of automobiles on its roads being rigorously banned.

The islands are surrounded by menacing coral reefs, and consequently the approach to Hamilton has to be made by a ship channel, known as "The Narrows," dredged round the eastern end of St. George's and along



HARVESTING THE BANANA IN A JAMAICA PLANTATION

The harvesting gang usually consists of three men—the “cutter,” the “backer,” and the “mule man.” The “cutter” notches the trunk of the tree a few feet below the bunch of fruit. The weight of the bunch causes the trunk to bend where it has been notched, and the “cutter” steadies the tree top with his pole to prevent its coming down with a rush and crushing the fruit.

Photo, Elders & Fyffes, Ltd.

the north coast. The scene as one nears the shore is extremely picturesque and attractive. The islands, which nowhere rise to a greater height than 245 feet, are covered with a mantle of deep emerald green grass. Dotted about here, there, and everywhere are spotlessly white houses and villas which match the roads and exposed parts of the low cliffs. In

marked contrast the surrounding sea is the deepest of deep blues, except where it is lashed into white foam against the reefs. On its surface floats saffron-coloured gulf weed, while motor-boats and yachts with their spruce white sails bellying to the breezes of the Atlantic flit endlessly to and fro. Coasting along one sees in succession



FULLY DEVELOPED BUNCH FALLS VICTIM TO THE KNIFE

The bunch of fruit is eased down until within reach of the "backer," when it is severed from the tree by the "cutter" with a machete. The "backer" then carries it on his shoulder to the nearest pack-road or tramline, en route for the railway. The tree is completely cut down, the decayed stalk forming humus which acts as a good fertiliser for the soil

Photo, Elders & Fyffes, Ltd.

Sea Venture Flats, on which Admiral Sir George Somers' vessel, the Sea Venture, was providentially wrecked in 1609—providentially, because this otherwise untoward event gave us these enchanting islands—a group of trim white barracks, Fort Catherine, Flatt's Village with North Village beyond, Mount Langton, the residence of the

Governor, and, a little farther on, Admiralty House, on Clarence Hill, the headquarters of the admiral in command of the North America and West Indies station; and then, as one turns in towards Hamilton, Grassy Bay, off Ireland Island, with several trim and grim silver-grey cruisers lying at anchor, reminding one that this is an important



BANANAS STACKED IN READINESS FOR PACK ANIMALS

The bunches of bananas, which are still unripe, being cut from the tree in a green state, are stacked at a given point, and then carried off on pack animals or tramcars for transportation to the railway



FINE CLUSTERS OF FRUIT FRESH FROM THE PLANTATION

The bunches vary in weight in accordance with the variety of the fruit, soil, and climatic conditions under which they are grown; the average weight, however, ranges from 50 to 75 pounds. In food value and flavour the banana easily takes its place at the head of the list of raw fruits. It is a recognised favourite, and according to Benjamin Disraeli: "The most delicious thing in the world is a banana"

Photos, Elders & Fyffes, Ltd.



HAULING BANANAS BY STEAM TRAM TO RAILWAY

The fruit is carefully packed on tram-trucks and covered with leaves, and on arrival at the railroad is loaded on fruit trains. Some farms employ animals to pull the trams, while on others small locomotives, as seen in the picture, are used.



CONVEYORS CARRYING THE BUNCHES INTO HOLD OF STEAMSHIP

The loading of the steamship begins immediately upon the arrival of the first fruit train at the port and continues without interruption until completed. The speed and accuracy of the loading system are wonderful. The bunches, placed in a trough, are caught up by supporters and conveyed into the hold of the ship. Cargoes of 75,000 bunches are loaded in twelve to fifteen hours.

Photos, Elders & Fyffes, Ltd.

BRITISH EMPIRE IN AMERICA

outpost of the Empire. From Grassy Bay steamers pass through the narrow Stags and Two Rock channels in a southeasterly direction through an archipelago of tiny islets to Hamilton. The capital is a picturesque town of white houses laid out on the rectangular plan on gently-rising ground. These houses are built entirely of coral rock, even the roofs being made of this material. On the north side of a square, shaded by many cedar trees, are the public buildings where the local Parliament meets. Next to the House of Commons, the Bermuda House of Assembly is the oldest legislative body of the kind within the British Empire, the colony having enjoyed representative government since 1620.

The tourist business is Bermuda's most important industry. The early

settlers were mainly agriculturists, but after the abrogation of the charter of the Somer Islands Company, which had acquired the islands in 1612, they found trading and piracy more to their taste.

In vessels made out of the local cedar-trees they traded with the West Indian Islands and America, and carried salt fish from Newfoundland to the Mediterranean, returning with cargoes of port wine. On occasion, too, they would meet the ships from India, and carry the produce of the East to the West Indies. This industry was, however, killed by the advent of steam, and the inhabitants had to look about them for some other means of livelihood. At this critical time Sir William Reid, the governor, introduced the cultivation of vegetables for the American market, and



AT THE END OF THE DAY: COTTAGE LIFE IN ANTIGUA

Except when she shows her dread power in volcanic eruptions and terrifying hurricanes, nature is kind to man in the lovely islands that stud the Caribbean Sea. West Indians earn their livelihood with a minimum of labour, and are contented with the simplest forms of housing, food, and clothing



"FINE FEATHERS MAKE FINE BIRDS" IN DOMINICA AS ELSEWHERE

Confident satisfaction with their physical charms and festival attire is shown in the freedom of pose and the frank regard with which these ladies of Dominica face the camera. Their native island is the largest of the five presidencies in the colony of the Leeward Islands

now early crops of potatoes, onions, tomatoes, and other vegetables are produced in the islands and are readily marketed in the United States. A lily bulb industry has also been successfully developed. One hears of Bermuda arrow-root, but very little of that commodity is now produced in the islands.

The Bermudas might now be fitly described as the pleasure and market garden of the United States; but with the establishment in recent years of steamship communication between the colony and Canada, the next few years may witness the development of a tourist and vegetable trade between the islands and their younger sister to the north, the Dominion of Canada. It is, however, to be regretted that Bermuda refused to ratify the Canada-West Indies Trade Agreement of June, 1920.

Of the total resident population of the Bermudas, about one-third are white (some being descended from the original settlers from Virginia) and two-thirds coloured, the latter being the

descendants of the African slaves and immigrants from the neighbouring West Indian Islands.

Except for a few months in the summer, when it is humid and enervating, the climate of Bermuda is generally quite delightful. Plants, flowers, and fruit of temperate climes flourish equally as well as those of the sub-tropical zone, and oleanders, poinsettias, and hibiscus of many shapes and colour grow in profusion. Shakespeare, impressed no doubt by the episode of Sir George Somers' shipwreck, referred to Bermuda in "The Tempest," as "the still vex'd Bermoothes," a description for which there is certainly no justification.

The Falklands, which include upwards of one hundred islands, lie out in the South Atlantic about 250 miles east of the Straits of Magellan. There are, however, only two islands in the group of any consequence, namely, East and West Falkland, separated by Falkland Sound, a narrow strait about forty-five miles in length and from

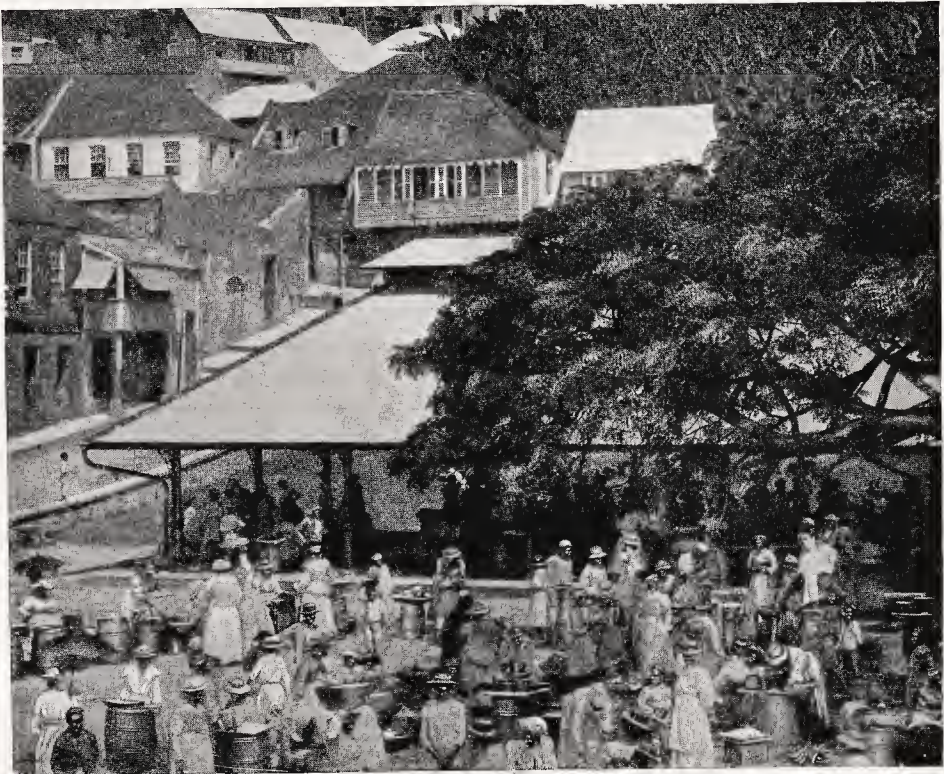
BRITISH EMPIRE IN AMERICA

two and a half to eighteen miles broad. These two islands closely resemble each other, both being about the same size, and being much indented with bays.

Both, too, have many islands off their coasts, the principal being the Jason Islands and Selbadines—a name once given to the whole group—off the north-west of West Falkland. On the north-east of East Falkland is Berkeley Sound, where the French first established themselves, while the next bay to the south is Port William, on an inlet to the south-west of which is Stanley, the capital, on the slopes of the hills, known as the Murray Heights, that cross the island from the east to west. From this great natural harbour Admiral Sturdee's ships fell upon the unsuspecting Von Spee's squadron and annihilated it on December 8th, 1914. East Falkland is almost bisected by

Choiseul and Graham Sounds, the Isthmus dividing those two fiords being only a mile and a half wide. At the head of Choiseul Sound is Port Darwin, whose name commemorates a visit paid by Charles Darwin, in H.M.S. Beagle, in 1833. The highest point in the island is Mount Usborne, 2,245 feet high, in the Wickham Heights to the west of Port Stanley. The southern part is low and undulating, being partly pasture-land and partly morass. West Falkland is slightly higher than its neighbour, Mount Adam rising on it to 2,315 feet. Its chief indentation is Byron Sound, which leads to Egmont Harbour on Saunders Island, in which the first British settlement was established in the eighteenth century.

The position of these islands in the Southern Hemisphere corresponds more or less with that of England in the



MARKET DAY IN ST. GEORGE'S CAPITAL OF GRENADA

Negroes and mulattoes form the great majority of the population of Grenada, and, like all Africans, find life's fullest flavour in the market-place, where they chatter volubly in English and in a French patois. In St. George's this is a roofed-in quadrangle, shaded by trees and flanked by red-brick houses that straggle up the side of the amphitheatre of hills on which the town is built



POMP AND PAGEANTRY OF HOLY CHURCH AT CHOISEUL

While religious toleration is the universal rule under the Pax Britannica, nine-tenths of the schools in St. Lucia are under the control of the Roman Catholics, to whom the Government primary schools have been handed over. It is a great occasion when the Vicar-Apostolic makes his visitation

Northern. The climate of the Falklands is nevertheless more equable than that of the Old Country, the thermometer rarely falling below 30° Fahr. in winter or rising above 65° Fahr. in summer. The islands are subject to wind and fogs, and fine, calm, and sunny days are so rare that they are called "pet days." Darwin compared the climate with "that which is experienced at the height of between one and two thousand feet on the mountains of North Wales, having, however, less sunshine and less frost, but more wind and rain." Stanley is a small town of only 900 inhabitants. Its small white houses are characterised by coloured roofs and glazed porches or conservatories in which geraniums, fuchsias, and other English flowers are

grown. The interior of the islands, or the "camp," as it is called, consists of stretches of wild, tree-less, and wind-swept moorland which presents a very desolate appearance, only an occasional ridge of grey rock breaking its smooth surface. The greater part of the country is peaty, the peat being formed of the roots and stems of a variety of the cow-berry of Scotland with red berries known locally as "diddle-dee berries." The islands were once covered with a reed-like tussock grass six to ten feet high, which has now been almost completely consumed by the cattle.

A striking feature of the country is the "Rivers of Stone"—long, narrow tracts covered with huge blocks of quartzite. How they came there nobody knows. Some regard them as the moraines of

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prehistoric glaciers, and others suggest that they were deposited by soft peaty soil as it worked its way down to the sea. Snipe, teal, and wild duck afford good sport in the marshes, and the indigenous fauna includes three varieties of penguin, the kelp-goose, the molly-mawk, and several species of shag. On the coasts the hair-seal, the sea-leopard, the sea-lion, and the sea-elephant are found.

The only industry of the principal islands is sheep-farming, which was started on a large scale with imported stock by the Falkland Islands Company

in 1867. All available land has now been taken up by some thirty farmers and companies, and it is estimated that there are now over 200,000 sheep in the islands. The exports include wool, tinned mutton, meat extracts, sheepskins, tallow, and live sheep. The farmers are mainly Scotsmen, who, with their families, constitute the bulk of the population of 3,255. Owing to the absence of roads, which necessitates their riding from place to place, they live a somewhat lonely existence. For the same reason the requirements of

the younger generation in respect of education are mainly met by travelling teachers, who pay periodical visits to the various homesteads. There is, however, a school at Darwin, supported by the Falkland Islands Company.

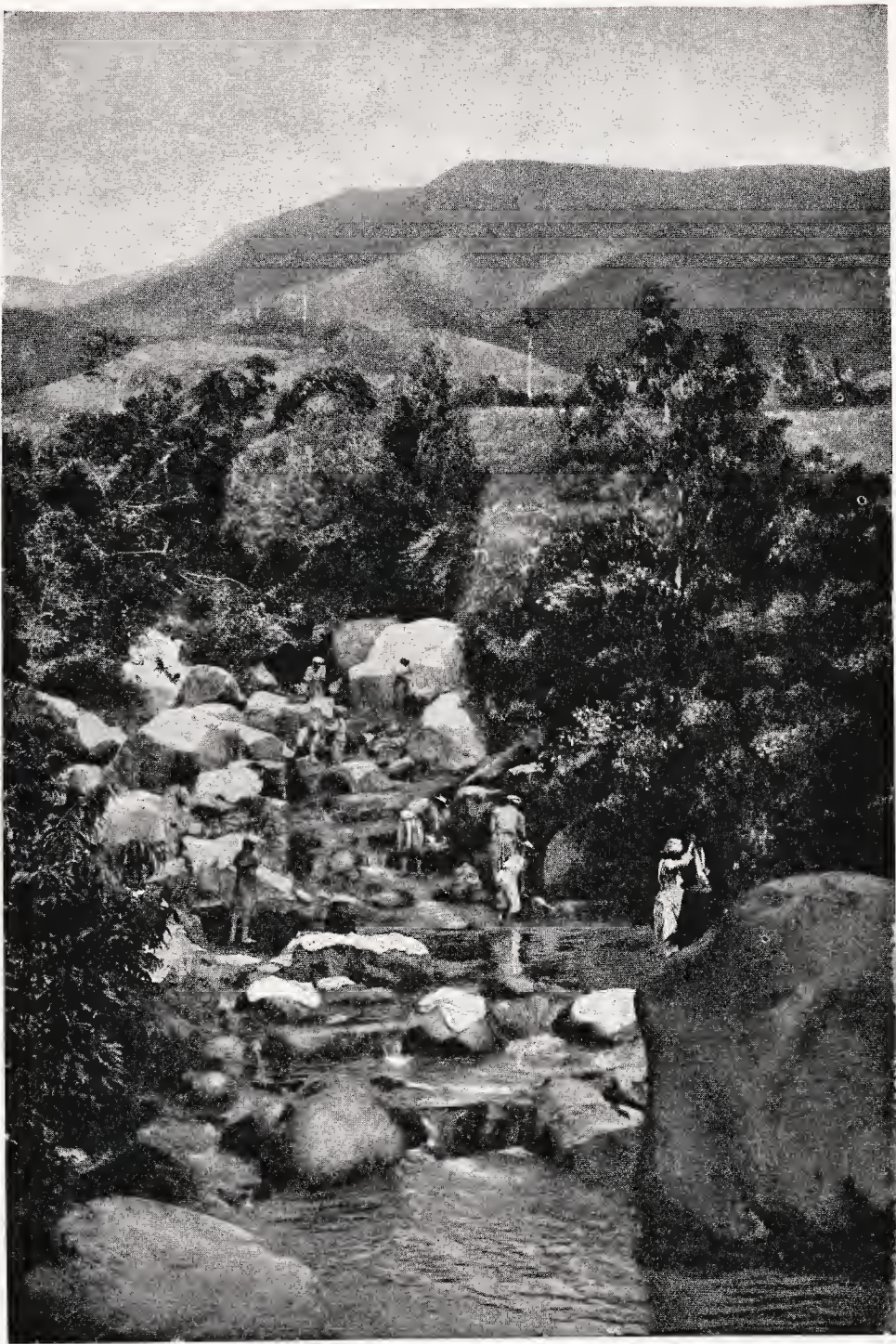
In the outlying islands the population is mainly composed of Norwegians, who are concerned in the whaling industry, which, though conducted for only two months in the year in the more southerly islands owing to the proximity of the ice pack, is nevertheless profitable. For convenience, the whales are dealt with in floating factories. The natural resources of these islands are likely to be largely developed as a result of the report of a committee of investigation issued in 1920.

Unlike Bermuda, the Falkland Islands do not attract visitors, but they have a certain charm for those who have elected to spend their life among them, and it would be difficult to find a more contented people than the Kelpers, as the local residents are called.



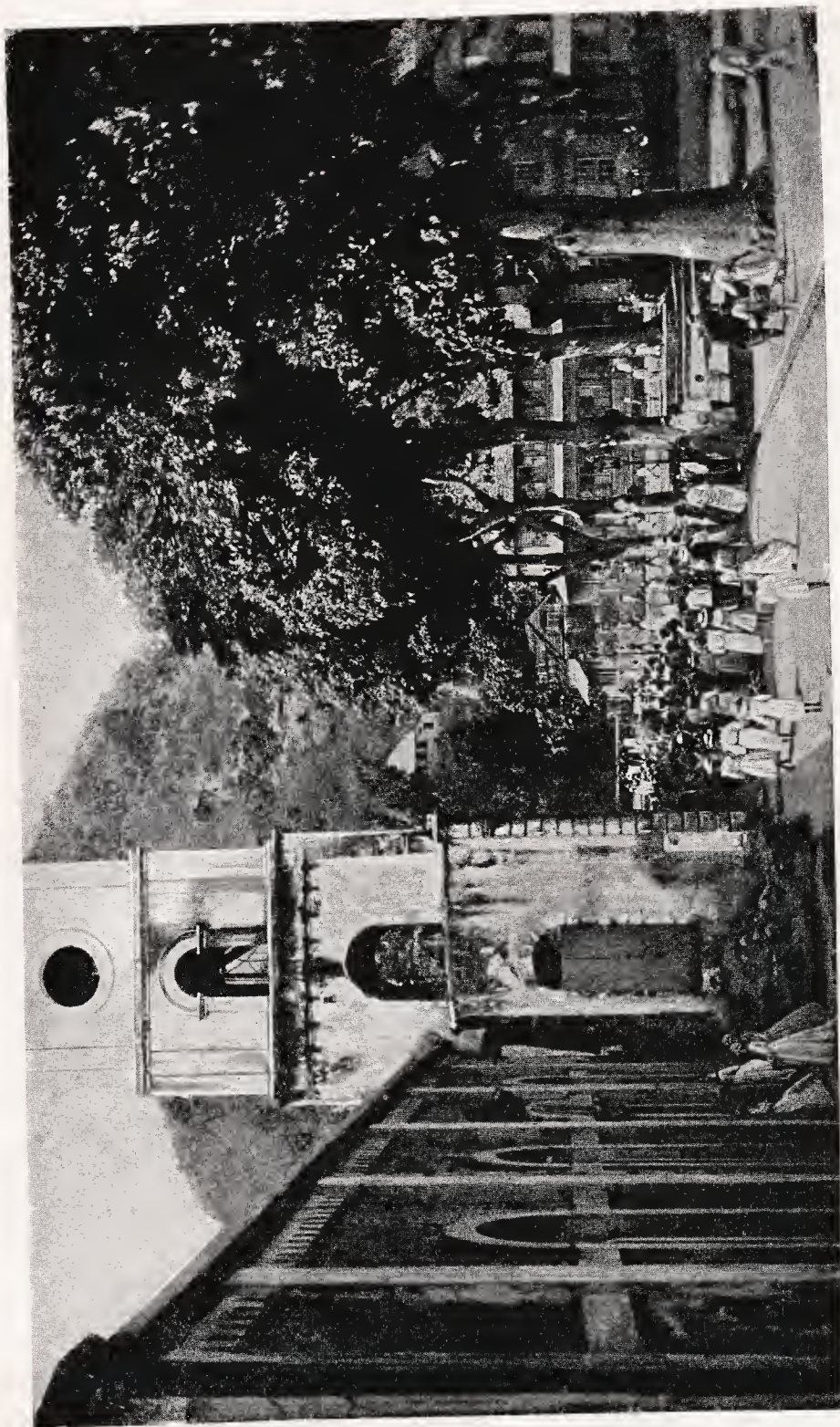
INSECT CONTRIBUTION TO HUMAN COMFORT

Bermuda is almost entirely composed of white coral formation, and this is largely used for building. Labourers saw out blocks of the material, which is obtained easily and hardens with exposure to the air



WASHERWOMEN AT WORK IN A LAUNDRY EQUIPPED BY NATURE

Volcanic hills, seen in the background, form the backbone of the island of St. Vincent, and between their richly-wooded spurs, lie very fertile valleys. Numbers of peasant proprietors are settled on small holdings in the central highlands. The negro women use the shallow basins of the tumbling waterfalls as washtubs, and spread their linen out to dry on the sun-baked boulders



PALM-SUNDAY PROCESSION IN COLOMBUS SQUARE, CASTRIES, THE CAPITAL OF ST. LUCIA
 Picturesque mangoes and box trees line the great square in Castries, named after Columbus, who discovered St. Lucia in 1502. The Roman Catholic church in the foreground is a recent addition to the architectural features of this handsome open space. St. Lucia, the largest and loveliest of the British Windward Islands, has, at Castries, a magnificent land-locked harbour, the principal coaling station of the British Navy in the West Indies

British Empire in America

II. How Pirates' Lairs Became Crown Colonies

By A. D. Innes, M.A.

Author of "History of England and the British Empire"

THE inauguration of a British Empire on the far side of the Atlantic Ocean dates from the discovery of Newfoundland in 1497 by an expedition which sailed from Bristol under Royal patronage, and under the captaincy of the Genoese or Venetian, John Cabot. The North American continent was, for the first time, reached by the same expedition, which thereby established a vague British claim to the occupation thereof by right of discovery. Occupation, however, was hardly considered in view of the discouraging reports of explorers, and though an early Spanish map recognizes the British title no attempt at settlement was made for nearly a century, though in the meanwhile the cod-banks of Newfoundland became a nursery for British and French seamanship.

The tropical and semi-tropical regions were claimed as her own by Spain, but the British claim to the north was asserted by the charter granted to Humphrey Gilbert in 1583, following on Martin Frobisher's explorations to the north-west seven years earlier. Gilbert attempted unsuccessfully to plant a settlement in Newfoundland, and disaster also attended the like attempts of Raleigh farther south at Roanoke. The real story of the expansion opens in the reign of James I., which saw the genuine beginnings of colonisation in Virginia, the scene of Raleigh's failure, in 1607, and New England in 1620, Newfoundland continuing without settlement, despite an abortive attempt, 1625-28.

First Plantations in the Caribbean

French claims on Acadie were challenged, and a British colonisation in Nova Scotia was attempted during the next ten years, while England and France were at war; the attempt, however, virtually ceased with the peace of 1629. After various vicissitudes Newfoundland and Nova Scotia were definitely brought under the British Flag by the treaty of Utrecht in 1713; the Dutch colony of New Amsterdam, rechristened New York, was ceded to Britain in 1667, and Canada in 1763, while the whole British group south of Nova Scotia severed itself from the British Empire by the War of Independence (1775-1783).

The islands to the southward now claim our attention—the Bermudas and the whole group known collectively as the West Indies. The Bermudas had

an evil reputation for storms and attracted no one till their merits were discovered through the accident of a wreck, and they were formally annexed by the Virginia Company in 1612, and occupied by British colonists. From Bermuda the British settlement in the hitherto-neglected Bahamas—the outer northern West Indian group—was begun in 1646, and the islands were recognized as a colony in 1670, nearly half a century after the first occupation in the Windward Islands, forming the southern group.

Golden Age of the Buccaneers

Nominally, all the islands had been claimed by Spain, and the objective of the Elizabethan mariners had been Spanish fleets and ports, not settlement. But the Spaniards had given their attention to the mainland and to the Greater Antilles, leaving the lesser isles unoccupied; and in 1605 formal possession was taken by the British of Barbados, though they did not effectively establish themselves there for another twenty years. Since that time Barbados has always been under the British Flag, though many others of the West Indian Islands have changed hands repeatedly. Through the civil troubles of the seventeenth century temporary slavery in the "plantations," preferably in Barbados, was a favourite penalty for disaffection towards both the Commonwealth and Restoration governments.

The first land actually occupied was not Barbados but St. Kitt's (St. Christopher's), a year or two earlier, where the French settled simultaneously, the rival colonists agreeing on an amicable partition of the island irrespective of international quarrels. St. Kitt's was the nucleus from which French and British proceeded to the appropriation of one after another of the Leeward or of the Windward group. The main product was sugar, and the labour mainly that of imported negro slaves. In 1655 Cromwell, with the Elizabethan tradition in his bones, opened hostilities with Spain by an expedition to the West Indies, which failed before its main objective, Cartagena, but incidentally took possession of the big island of Jamaica, which remained in British possession at the close of the war and from thence onwards.

The second half of the seventeenth century was the golden age of the buccaneers—pirates, British, French, and

BRITISH EMPIRE IN AMERICA

Dutch, who preyed primarily, though by no means exclusively, on the Spaniards—often in concert except when wars between the home governments gave them an incentive to turn on each other. They resorted to the unclaimed islands and the Bahamas, and, in fact, formed a sort of piratical confederacy in the seas, which the European Powers made no attempt to police with their warships, and they were not broken up till the eighteenth century.

Preparing Nelson's Triumph at Trafalgar

In the eighteenth century Great Britain was at war with France, or Spain, or both, 1702-1713, 1739-1748, 1757-1763, 1778-1783, 1793 till 1815. In the course of those conflicts the West Indies were the constant scene of naval operations, in which Britain frittered away a good deal of her sea-power in the futile business of "capturing sugar-islands" which could not be adequately garrisoned and, consequently, changed owners with some frequency during the fighting, while peace was apt to bring a mutual restitution of conquests. Brilliant actions were occasionally fought, of which the most notable were Hood's at St. Kitt's (a classic battle for naval historians, though its political result was small) and Rodney's great victory of "The Saints" (islets between Dominica and Guadeloupe) which broke up the Franco-Spanish combination that was threatening the destruction of British naval supremacy (1782). In the West Indies also Villeneuve played the game of hide-and-seek (1805) which was meant to clear the seas for the invasion of Britain, but was actually the preliminary to Nelson's triumph at Trafalgar.

Britain Becomes Mistress of West Atlantic

It was not, then, the captures or recaptures of islands during the wars, but the general situation at the end of each of them, that decided which of them should be British, and which French or Spanish or Dutch, for the Dutch, too, were drawn into the latest wars as allies or dependents of the French. In the final result (1815) the great majority of the lesser islands had passed into British possession, and have so remained ever since.

In the Central American mainland British Honduras became British in 1798, having hitherto been technically Spanish, but partly occupied by British settlers for the sake of its logwood. On the South American continent Raleigh had led two expeditions to Guiana, where, however, more effective settlement was made by French and Dutch. British Guiana was actually taken from the Dutch, at that time unwilling dependents on the French, in 1796.

Passing again to the south, there is still another small group of islands in British possession, the Falklands, which no one troubled to occupy till the second half of the eighteenth century. In 1764 and 1765 the French occupied one island, which they presently handed over to Spain, and the British another. Six years later the high-handed proceedings of the Spaniards would have brought on a war if they had not chosen the prudent course of withdrawing their claims (1771), though no effective British occupation was actually made till 1834. The islands remain chiefly notable as the scene of the destruction of the one German squadron which was at large in December, 1914.

In Barbados, Bermuda, and the other islands acquired in the seventeenth century, representative institutions were very promptly set up. All were of the "plantation" type, usually for the cultivation of sugar as the staple product, the labour being mainly not that of native "Indians," but of African negro slaves, and, in part, of "indentured" white slaves, who became free after a term of years. The settlers, as in Virginia, being largely the younger sons of the British gentry, the plantations displayed a tendency to repudiate the authority of the Commonwealth Government, but were sternly brought to book by the Protector.

The Empire Emancipates its Slaves

Nothing came of occasional schemes for federation among them for the simple reasons that there was no policy for them to unite upon, while as concerned foreign rivals the smallness of the British populations made them almost wholly dependent, whether for attack or defence, on the fleets and troops of the Mother Country. Ultimately they became Crown colonies, generally joined in administrative groups—the Windwards south of the French Martinique, the Leewards north and west of it till the Greater Antilles are reached, the Bahamas on the north of the Greater Antilles (the Turks and Caicos at the eastern end of the group being attached to Jamaica), besides the separate Barbados, Trinidad with Tobago, and finally Jamaica. The negro slavery, which, as we have seen, was a common feature, was abolished throughout the Empire in 1833.

Jamaica, very much the largest of the British West Indian Islands, demands a somewhat fuller account of its story than the rest. Its acquisition in 1655 was an accident, an afterthought following upon failure elsewhere. There were already on the island a few Spanish and Portuguese planters and a much larger population of negro slaves; of the original population there was only a remnant. On the expulsion of the Spaniards the negroes for the most part fled into the interior, where



BRITISH EMPIRE IN AMERICA AND ITS PEOPLES

they abode in practical independence ; to the new British settlers they were known as the Maroons. The new white population was miscellaneous. Immediately after the Restoration the Crown took over the government and established control ; it was in friendly relations with the buccanniers and notably with the famous Captain Morgan, whose semi-official attacks on the Spaniards were rewarded with knighthood by Charles II.

Jamaica enjoyed representative institutions—limited, of course, to the whites. Its history in the eighteenth century was

comparatively uneventful, but troubles began there with the emancipation of the slaves in 1833. By way of easing matters, the compulsory service of the slaves was continued for another five years, but they were no longer the property of the planters, who had no interest in their welfare and sought mainly to get the maximum of labour out of them at the minimum of expense during the period of forced service. The result was that the planter parliament and the government of the Crown found themselves very much at cross-purposes, and the Constitution was

BRITISH EMPIRE IN AMERICA

virtually suspended. In actual fact the huge numbers of free negroes provided a singularly difficult problem of control, and, on the other hand, the planters were faced with the economic problem of the increased cost of production through the loss of forced labour. The negro claimed rights as a free man which appeared at least to be incompatible with the white man's ascendancy, which, in turn, was a condition necessary to the preservation of any

order or security. Matters came to a head with the negro insurrections of 1865, the stern repression of which, by Governor Eyre, was warmly approved by the whites in Jamaica, and was denounced or applauded with equal vehemence by different sections of the British public at home. Jamaica, after the insurrection, reverted to the position of a normal Crown colony, from which its early emergence is hardly to be anticipated.

BRITISH EMPIRE IN AMERICA: FACTS AND FIGURES

The Countries

Consists of archipelago of West Indies, Bermuda, Falkland Islands, and British Guiana and British Honduras. Canada and Newfoundland are described elsewhere. Total area, about 118,650 square miles; population, about 2,040,000.

Government and Constitution

All the islands and territories are Crown Colonies, and Crown is represented by Governors. Representative government, with partially or wholly elected legislative councils or executives, exists in Bermuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Jamaica, and Leeward Is. (except Antigua and Dominica). In British Guiana there are elected Court of Policy and Combined Court. In Windward Islands each island has its own institutions (without a common legislature) semi-elective in Grenada and by nominated council in St. Lucia and St. Vincent. Falkland Islands, British Honduras, and Trinidad, ruled by Governors with nominated councils.

Bermudas

About 300 islands (20 inhabited). Area, about 20 square miles; population, about 22,000. For products, etc., see page 769. Exports, 1920, £265,800; imports, £1,414,250. Capital, Hamilton.

Falkland Islands

East and West Falklands (about 5,300 square miles), and about 100 small islands; total, 6,500 square miles. Also dependencies of South Georgia (estimated 1,000 square miles), South Shetlands, South Orkneys, Sandwich group, and Graham Land (Antarctic). Estimated population, 3,250. Description and products, page 775. Exports, 1918, were £2,054,000 (whale produce, £1,667,000); imports, £940,000. Capital, Stanley.

British Guiana

Area, 89,480 square miles; population, estimated, 306,000. See pages 755, 759, and 760 for products, etc. Exports, 1920, £889,760; imports, £989,000. Capital, Georgetown (53,400).

British Honduras

Area, 8,590 square miles; population (1921 census), 45,300. Noted for mahogany and logwood production (about £220,000 annually); also bananas, coffee, cocoa, etc. Exports, 1920-21, £5,045,000; imports, £5,876,000. See pages 757 and 759. Capital, Belize (12,660).

West Indies

BAHAMAS, 20 inhabited and large number of uninhabited islands and rocks. Principal island, New Providence. Area, about 4,400 square miles; population, about 60,000. Chief industries, sponges (£205,000), and sisal (£85,000); also pearls, ambergris, and fruit. Exports average about £300,000; imports, £500,000. Capital, Nassau.

BARBADOS. Area, 166 square miles; population (1921), 198,000. Of total area about 116 square miles are under cultivation. Staple products, sugar (exports £1,232,000), and cotton. Exports, 1920-21, £4,866,000; imports, £5,145,000. Capital, Bridgetown (16,650).

JAMAICA (4,450 square miles), with TURKS and CAICOS Is. (170 square miles), CAYMAN Is. (225 square miles), MORANT CAYS, and PEDRO CAYS. Population, Jamaica (1921 census), 858,000; Turks Is., 5,600; Cayman Is., 5,250. Products, etc., of Jamaica, see page 759, etc. Exports, 1919-20, £5,627,000 (sugar, £1,318,000; bananas, £1,141,000; rum, £924,000); imports, £5,085,000. Chief towns, Kingston, capital (62,500); Spanish Town, 8,700; Montego Bay, 6,600; Port Antonio, 6,280. Chief industry, Turks Is., is salt raking (exports about £24,000); in Caymans, coconut planting (exports about 2,000,000 nuts per annum).

LEEWARD ISLANDS comprise five Presidencies, as follows:

ANTIGUA (108 square miles), with BARBUDA and REDONDA (62 square miles). Population, about 33,000. Produce sugar, cotton, and pineapples. Capital, St. John.

ST. KITTS (68 square miles), and NEVIS (50 square miles), with ANGUILLA (35 square miles). Population, 38,000. Produce sugar, syrup, and cotton. Capital, Basseterre.

MONTERRAT. Area, about 33 square miles; population, 12,000. Chief products, cotton, lime juice, sugar. Chief town, Plymouth.

DOMINICA, about 300 square miles; population estimated at 37,000, including 400 Caribs. Produces limes and lime products, cocoa, coconuts. Chief town, Roseau.

BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS, about 32 of group, remainder belonging to U.S.A. British area, about 58 square miles; population, about 5,000. Chief islands, Tortola, Virgin Gorda, Anegada. Chief industry, cotton; copper mine on Virgin Gorda. Capital, Road Town (460).

TRINIDAD (1,860 square miles), and TOBAGO (114 square miles); estimated population, 391,000. Products, see page 760. Exports, 1920, were £9,417,000; imports, £9,498,000. Capital, Port of Spain (70,150); also San Fernando (10,170), and Princetown (4,560).

WINDWARD ISLANDS consist of three colonies with dependencies, as follows:

GRENADA. Area, about 133 square miles; population, 66,000. Chief products, sugar, rum, cocoa, nutmegs, and spices. Exports in 1920 were £604,000; imports, £630,000. Chief town, St. George's. Part of Grenadines (largest island Carriacou) are attached to Grenada, part to St. Vincent.

ST. VINCENT. Area, 150 square miles; population, 44,450. Produces fine Sea Island cotton and arrowroot; also sugar, rum, cocoa, and spices. Exports, about £300,000; imports, £257,000. Capital, Kingstown.

ST. LUCIA. Area, 233 square miles; population, 51,500. Exports (sugar, cocoa, lime juice, molasses, logwood, hides, and fuel) £455,400 in 1920; imports, £528,000. Capital, Castries.

END OF VOLUME I.